

IBSAT Verbal Ability

Sample Paper – 9

Duration: 43 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

Instructions

- This paper contains **50** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Verbal Ability section of **IBSAT** (ICFAI Business School Aptitude Test).
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers, so attempt every question.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose the most appropriate answer.
- IBSAT is a computer-based test with no sectional time limit; attempt this practice paper in one timed sitting of about **43 minutes**.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, dictionaries, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Part A: Idioms and Phrases

- Q1.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“A leopard can’t change its spots”**
- (A) A wild animal is always dangerous
 - (B) Appearances can often be deceptive
 - (C) A person cannot change their basic nature
 - (D) Change comes only with great effort
- Q2.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“To be all ears”**
- (A) To listen eagerly and attentively
 - (B) To be hard of hearing



- (C) To spread gossip quickly
- (D) To ignore what is being said

Q3. Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“To cut the mustard”**

- (A) To prepare food carefully
- (B) To reach the required standard
- (C) To spoil a settled arrangement
- (D) To reduce expenses sharply

Q4. Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“To be down to earth”**

- (A) To be feeling very sad
- (B) To fall suddenly from a height
- (C) To be extremely ambitious
- (D) To be practical and sensible

Q5. Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“A fish out of water”**

- (A) A person who swims very well
- (B) A rare and valuable find
- (C) Someone who feels out of place in a situation
- (D) A helpless victim of bad luck

Q6. Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“Hold your horses”**

- (A) To take firm control of a group
- (B) To wait and be patient
- (C) To rush ahead boldly
- (D) To look after animals with care



- Q7.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“Like looking for a needle in a haystack”**
- (A) A tiny but very sharp danger
 - (B) A completely useless object
 - (C) A clever and secret hiding place
 - (D) Something extremely hard to find
- Q8.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“To be on cloud nine”**
- (A) To be extremely happy
 - (B) To be lost in confusion
 - (C) To be proud and arrogant
 - (D) To be high up in the sky
- Q9.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“The tip of the iceberg”**
- (A) The coldest part of winter
 - (B) The final stage of a difficult task
 - (C) A small visible part of a much larger problem
 - (D) An unexpected piece of good luck
- Q10.** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom: **“Water under the bridge”**
- (A) A hidden danger lying ahead
 - (B) A past matter now forgiven and forgotten
 - (C) A steady and reliable flow of income
 - (D) A very difficult decision to make

Part B: Synonyms

- Q11.** Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: **WARY**



- (A) Very tired and weak
- (B) Openly friendly
- (C) Deeply confused
- (D) Cautious and watchful

Q12. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: **ZEALOUS**

- (A) Full of eager enthusiasm
- (B) Coldly indifferent
- (C) Extremely jealous
- (D) Slow and lazy

Q13. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: **ARDUOUS**

- (A) Simple and easy
- (B) Bold and daring
- (C) Difficult and demanding
- (D) Warm and passionate

Q14. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: **BLEAK**

- (A) Bright and cheerful
- (B) Gloomy and cheerless
- (C) Pale in colour
- (D) Sudden and brief

Q15. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to: **COAX**

- (A) To force harshly
- (B) To trick cruelly
- (C) To ignore completely
- (D) To persuade gently

Part C: Antonyms



Q16. Choose the word most **opposite** in meaning to: **FAMINE**

- (A) Plenty
- (B) Hunger
- (C) Drought
- (D) Poverty

Q17. Choose the word most **opposite** in meaning to: **GENUINE**

- (A) Sincere
- (B) Honest
- (C) Counterfeit
- (D) Valuable

Q18. Choose the word most **opposite** in meaning to: **HASTEN**

- (A) Rush
- (B) Delay
- (C) Hurry
- (D) Depart

Q19. Choose the word most **opposite** in meaning to: **IMMENSE**

- (A) Enormous
- (B) Vast
- (C) Heavy
- (D) Tiny

Q20. Choose the word most **opposite** in meaning to: **JUNIOR**

- (A) Senior
- (B) Younger
- (C) Assistant
- (D) Recent



Part D: Analogies

- Q21.** Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to: **DROUGHT : FAMINE**
- (A) Doctor : Medicine
 - (B) Winter : Season
 - (C) Carelessness : Accident
 - (D) Flood : River
- Q22.** Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to: **CARPENTER : WOOD**
- (A) Farmer : Tractor
 - (B) Potter : Clay
 - (C) Teacher : School
 - (D) Tailor : Shop
- Q23.** Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to: **PETAL : FLOWER**
- (A) Branch : Tree
 - (B) Herd : Cow
 - (C) Bouquet : Rose
 - (D) Seed : Fruit
- Q24.** Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to: **LAMB : SHEEP**
- (A) Dog : Puppy
 - (B) Cow : Calf
 - (C) Horse : Stable
 - (D) Cub : Bear



- Q25.** Choose the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to: **SINGER : CHOIR**
- (A) Player : Game
 - (B) Actor : Film
 - (C) Musician : Orchestra
 - (D) Teacher : Lesson

Part E: Fill in the Blanks

- Q26.** Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate pair of words: “Since the library subscribed to _____ journals, research scholars found its collection _____ for their advanced work.”
- (A) few ... adequate
 - (B) numerous ... invaluable
 - (C) old ... modern
 - (D) damaged ... useful
- Q27.** Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate pair of words: “While one rival remained _____ about the result, the other grew increasingly _____ as the contest drew to a close.”
- (A) sure ... certain
 - (B) tense ... composed
 - (C) calm ... relaxed
 - (D) confident ... anxious
- Q28.** Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate pair of words: “The power cut lasted for hours; the food in the freezers therefore began to _____, and the shopkeepers grew _____ about their losses.”
- (A) spoil ... anxious
 - (B) freeze ... happy
 - (C) improve ... calm



(D) harden ... hopeful

Q29. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate pair of words: “Whereas the theory looked perfectly _____ on paper, its practical application proved surprisingly _____ in the field.”

(A) sound ... reliable

(B) flawed ... simple

(C) simple ... complicated

(D) clear ... obvious

Q30. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate pair of words: “In order to _____ the river bank, the volunteers _____ every plastic bag and bottle they could find.”

(A) pollute ... scattered

(B) clean ... collected

(C) flood ... ignored

(D) decorate ... burned

Part F: Spotting Errors

Q31. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) The majority of the members was / (B) in favour of the proposal / (C) put forward by the chairman. / (D) No error

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(B) in favour of the proposal

(C) put forward by the chairman.

(D) No error

Q32. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) Many people were / (B) waiting outside the hall / (C) long before the doors opened. / (D) No error



- (A) Many people were
- (B) waiting outside the hall
- (C) long before the doors opened.
- (D) No error

Q33. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) The barber remarked / (B) that my / (C) hairs are growing very fast. / (D) No error

- (A) The barber remarked
- (B) that my
- (C) hairs are growing very fast.
- (D) No error

Q34. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) We were thrilled / (B) by the beautiful sceneries / (C) of the hill station. / (D) No error

- (A) We were thrilled
- (B) by the beautiful sceneries
- (C) of the hill station.
- (D) No error

Q35. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error. If there is no error, choose (D).

(A) He stopped to smoke / (B) three years ago / (C) after a serious warning from his doctor. / (D) No error

- (A) He stopped to smoke
- (B) three years ago
- (C) after a serious warning from his doctor.



(D) No error

Part G: Sentence Improvement

- Q36.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose (D). “The hen laid six eggs last week.”
- (A) lay
(B) lain
(C) lied
(D) No improvement
- Q37.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose (D). “The convicted murderer was hung at dawn.”
- (A) hunged
(B) hanged
(C) had hung
(D) No improvement
- Q38.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose (D). “She has always been very good in mathematics.”
- (A) good on
(B) good with
(C) good at
(D) No improvement
- Q39.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose (D). “After a long courtship, she got married with a doctor.”
- (A) married to
(B) married from
(C) married by



(D) No improvement

Q40. Choose the best replacement for the underlined part. If no improvement is needed, choose (D). “He felt deeply ashamed of his rude behaviour.”

(A) ashamed for

(B) ashamed with

(C) ashamed from

(D) No improvement

Part H: Para-jumbles

Q41. Arrange the four sentences (P, Q, R, S) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.

P. Over time, it became the leading instrument of the orchestra.

Q. The violin is a wooden string instrument played with a bow.

R. It was developed in Italy during the sixteenth century.

S. Skilled makers such as Stradivari perfected its design.

(A) Q R P S

(B) Q R S P

(C) R Q S P

(D) Q S R P

Q42. Arrange the four sentences (P, Q, R, S) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.

P. Each colony is divided into workers, soldiers, and a queen.

Q. Ants are among the most social insects on earth.

R. They live together in large, well-organised colonies.

S. This division of labour makes the colony highly efficient.

(A) Q R S P

(B) R Q P S

(C) Q R P S

(D) Q P R S



- Q43.** Arrange the four sentences (P, Q, R, S) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.
- P.** It was first developed as a military project in the United States.
- Q.** The internet began as a small network of a few computers.
- R.** Later, universities joined the network for research.
- S.** Today it links billions of devices across the world.
- (A) Q P R S
(B) Q R P S
(C) P Q R S
(D) Q P S R
- Q44.** Arrange the four sentences (P, Q, R, S) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.
- P.** They begin as tiny streams high in the mountains.
- Q.** Rivers are large natural streams of flowing water.
- R.** As they flow downhill, smaller streams join them.
- S.** Finally, they empty into a sea or a lake.
- (A) Q R P S
(B) P Q R S
(C) Q P S R
(D) Q P R S
- Q45.** Arrange the four sentences (P, Q, R, S) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.
- P.** A vaccine works by training the body to fight a particular germ.
- Q.** Vaccination is one of the greatest achievements of modern medicine.
- R.** Smallpox, for example, has been completely wiped out.
- S.** As a result, once-deadly diseases have almost disappeared.
- (A) Q P R S
(B) Q P S R
(C) P Q S R



(D) Q S P R

Part I: One-Word Substitution

- Q46.** Choose the single word for the phrase: **“An intense fear of enclosed spaces”**
- (A) Claustrophobia
 - (B) Agoraphobia
 - (C) Acrophobia
 - (D) Hydrophobia
- Q47.** Choose the single word for the phrase: **“The art of beautiful handwriting”**
- (A) Cartography
 - (B) Choreography
 - (C) Calligraphy
 - (D) Typography
- Q48.** Choose the single word for the phrase: **“A person who does not eat meat”**
- (A) Herbivore
 - (B) Gourmet
 - (C) Teetotaller
 - (D) Vegetarian
- Q49.** Choose the single word for the phrase: **“A person appointed to settle a dispute”**
- (A) Advocate
 - (B) Arbitrator
 - (C) Witness
 - (D) Culprit



- Q50.** Choose the single word for the phrase: **“The killing of one’s own brother”**
- (A) Homicide
 - (B) Regicide
 - (C) Fratricide
 - (D) Patricide



Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: An idiom carries a figurative meaning that cannot be worked out from the literal words.

Meaning: “A leopard can’t change its spots” means that a person cannot change their basic nature or character, however hard they may try.

Usage: He promised to become punctual, but a leopard can’t change its spots, and he was late again.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “A wild animal is always dangerous” takes the leopard literally.
- Option B: “Appearances can be deceptive” is a different proverb about looks, not fixed nature.
- Option D: “Change comes only with effort” suggests change is possible, the reverse of the idiom.

Final Answer: It means a person cannot change their basic nature ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q1](#)

Q2.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: The words of an idiom point to a settled figurative sense fixed by usage.

Meaning: “To be all ears” means to listen eagerly and with full attention.

Usage: Tell me about your trip; I am all ears.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Hard of hearing” is the opposite of listening keenly.
- Option C: “Spreading gossip” involves speaking, not attentive listening.
- Option D: “Ignoring what is said” contradicts the idea of eager attention.

Final Answer: It means to listen eagerly and attentively ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q2](#)



Q3.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: An idiom expresses a meaning that stands apart from the ordinary sense of its words.

Meaning: “To cut the mustard” means to reach the expected standard or to succeed at what is required.

Usage: The new recruit worked hard but could not quite cut the mustard.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Prepare food carefully” is a literal reading of “mustard”.
- Option C: “Spoil an arrangement” is unrelated to meeting a standard.
- Option D: “Reduce expenses” confuses the phrase with cutting costs.

Final Answer: It means to reach the required standard ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q3](#)

Q4.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: Idioms describe a personal quality through a vivid, non-literal image.

Meaning: “To be down to earth” means to be practical, sensible, and free of pretence.

Usage: Despite her fame, she remained a down-to-earth and approachable person.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Feeling very sad” describes low spirits, not a practical nature.
- Option B: “Falling from a height” takes the phrase literally.
- Option C: “Extremely ambitious” suggests reaching high, the opposite image.

Final Answer: It means practical and sensible ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q4](#)



Q5.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: A comparison idiom captures a feeling through a striking image.

Meaning: “A fish out of water” describes someone who feels uncomfortable or out of place in unfamiliar surroundings.

Usage: At the formal dinner, the young trainee felt like a fish out of water.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “A person who swims well” is nearly the opposite of the helpless image.
- Option B: “A rare and valuable find” has no link to feeling out of place.
- Option D: “A victim of bad luck” points to misfortune, not discomfort in a setting.

Final Answer: It means someone who feels out of place ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: An idiom about horses is used to urge restraint.

Meaning: “Hold your horses” means to wait, slow down, and be patient before acting.

Usage: Hold your horses; we should read the rules before we start.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Take firm control” is about command, not patience.
- Option C: “Rush ahead boldly” is the direct opposite of waiting.
- Option D: “Look after animals” takes the phrase literally.

Final Answer: It means to wait and be patient ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q6](#)



Q7.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: A vivid image can express how hard a search is.

Meaning: “Looking for a needle in a haystack” means searching for something extremely hard to find.

Usage: Finding that one email in thousands was like looking for a needle in a haystack.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “A sharp danger” focuses on the needle’s point, not the search.
- Option B: “A useless object” misses the idea of difficulty in finding.
- Option C: “A secret hiding place” is about concealment, not a hard search.

Final Answer: It means something extremely hard to find ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: An idiom of height is used to describe an emotional peak.

Meaning: “To be on cloud nine” means to be extremely happy or delighted.

Usage: She was on cloud nine when she heard she had won the scholarship.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Lost in confusion” is a state of muddle, not joy.
- Option C: “Proud and arrogant” adds a negative shade the idiom does not carry.
- Option D: “High up in the sky” takes “cloud” literally.

Final Answer: It means to be extremely happy ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q8](#)



Q9.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: An iceberg image shows how a small visible part hides a much larger whole.

Meaning: “The tip of the iceberg” means a small, visible part of a much larger, hidden problem.

Usage: The complaints we received were only the tip of the iceberg.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “The coldest part of winter” takes “iceberg” literally.
- Option B: “The final stage of a task” misreads the phrase as an ending.
- Option D: “A piece of good luck” has no connection to a hidden problem.

Final Answer: It means a small visible part of a larger problem ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Concept — Idiom: A flowing-water image stands for a past that cannot be changed.

Meaning: “Water under the bridge” means a past event or quarrel that is now over and no longer worth worrying about.

Usage: We had our disagreements, but that is all water under the bridge now.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “A hidden danger ahead” points to the future, not a settled past.
- Option C: “A flow of income” takes “water” as a literal resource.
- Option D: “A difficult decision” has no link to forgiving a past matter.

Final Answer: It means a past matter now forgiven and forgotten ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q10](#)



Q11.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: A synonym is the word closest in meaning to the given word.

Meaning: “Wary” means cautious and watchful, alert to possible danger or trouble.

Usage: He was wary of strangers who offered deals that sounded too good.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Very tired” confuses “wary” with the sound-alike “weary”.
- Option B: “Openly friendly” is the opposite of guarded caution.
- Option C: “Deeply confused” describes muddle, not watchfulness.

Final Answer: Wary means cautious and watchful ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: Match the target word to the option that shares its core sense.

Meaning: “Zealous” means full of eager enthusiasm and energetic devotion to a cause.

Usage: The zealous volunteers worked all night to prepare the relief camp.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Coldly indifferent” is the opposite of eager enthusiasm.
- Option C: “Extremely jealous” confuses “zealous” with the sound-alike “jealous”.
- Option D: “Slow and lazy” contradicts energetic devotion.

Final Answer: Zealous means full of eager enthusiasm ⇒

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q12](#)



Q13.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: Pick the option with the same essential meaning.

Meaning: “Arduous” means difficult and demanding, needing much effort and endurance.

Usage: The climb to the summit was an arduous ten-hour trek.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Simple and easy” is the direct opposite of demanding.
- Option B: “Bold and daring” describes courage, not effort.
- Option D: “Warm and passionate” confuses “arduous” with “ardent”.

Final Answer: Arduous means difficult and demanding ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: Identify the shared sense between the word and an option.

Meaning: “Bleak” means gloomy, cheerless, and offering little hope or comfort.

Usage: The future looked bleak after the factory closed down.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Bright and cheerful” is the opposite of gloomy.
- Option C: “Pale in colour” describes shade, not mood.
- Option D: “Sudden and brief” refers to time, unrelated to bleakness.

Final Answer: Bleak means gloomy and cheerless ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q14](#)



Q15.

Solution

Concept — Synonym: Choose the word that means the same action.

Meaning: “Coax” means to persuade someone gently and patiently to do something.

Usage: She had to coax the frightened child into the doctor’s room.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “To force harshly” uses pressure, the opposite of gentle persuasion.
- Option B: “To trick cruelly” adds deceit, which coaxing does not imply.
- Option C: “To ignore completely” is the reverse of trying to persuade.

Final Answer: Coax means to persuade gently ⇒

[Go Back to Q15](#)

Q16.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: An antonym is the word most opposite in meaning to the given word.

Meaning: “Famine” means a severe shortage of food. Its opposite is “plenty”, a large and ample supply.

Usage: Years of famine were followed by a season of plenty.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Hunger” is a result of famine, not its opposite.
- Option C: “Drought” is a cause of famine, again not opposite.
- Option D: “Poverty” is closely linked to famine, not contrary to it.

Final Answer: The opposite of famine is plenty ⇒

[Go Back to Q16](#)



Q17.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: Find the option that reverses the meaning of the target word.

Meaning: “Genuine” means real and authentic. Its opposite is “counterfeit”, meaning fake or forged.

Usage: The expert proved that the genuine painting had been swapped for a counterfeit.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Sincere” is a near-synonym of genuine, not its opposite.
- Option B: “Honest” also shares the sense of genuine.
- Option D: “Valuable” concerns worth, not authenticity.

Final Answer: The opposite of genuine is counterfeit ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: Select the clearest opposite of the given word.

Meaning: “Hasten” means to hurry or speed something up. Its opposite is “delay”, to slow down or put off.

Usage: Good news can hasten recovery, while worry may delay it.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Rush” is a synonym of hasten, not its opposite.
- Option C: “Hurry” also means the same as hasten.
- Option D: “Depart” means to leave, unrelated to speed.

Final Answer: The opposite of hasten is delay ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q18](#)



Q19.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: Choose the word that means the reverse.

Meaning: “Immense” means extremely large or huge. Its opposite is “tiny”, meaning very small.

Usage: From the plane the immense city shrank to a tiny cluster of lights.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Enormous” is a synonym of immense.
- Option B: “Vast” also means very large.
- Option C: “Heavy” refers to weight, not size.

Final Answer: The opposite of immense is tiny ⇒

[Go Back to Q19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Concept — Antonym: Pick the option opposite in sense.

Meaning: “Junior” means lower in rank, position, or age. Its opposite is “senior”, higher in rank or older.

Usage: She rose from a junior clerk to a senior manager in ten years.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Younger” overlaps with junior rather than opposing it.
- Option C: “Assistant” describes a supporting role, close to junior.
- Option D: “Recent” concerns time, not rank.

Final Answer: The opposite of junior is senior ⇒

[Go Back to Q20](#)



Q21.

Solution

Concept — Analogy: First name the exact relationship in the given pair, then find the option that repeats it.

Relationship: A drought leads to a famine, so the link is cause to effect.

Application: Carelessness leads to an accident, matching the cause-to-effect pattern.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Doctor : Medicine is a person to the tool used, not cause and effect.
- Option B: Winter : Season is a member to its category.
- Option D: Flood : River reverses the order, since a river overflowing is the cause of a flood.

Final Answer: Carelessness : Accident shares the cause-to-effect link ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q21](#)

Q22.

Solution

Concept — Analogy: Identify the worker-to-material relationship.

Relationship: A carpenter shapes wood, so the link is a worker to the raw material worked upon.

Application: A potter shapes clay, matching worker to material.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Farmer : Tractor pairs a worker with a tool, not a material.
- Option C: Teacher : School pairs a worker with a place of work.
- Option D: Tailor : Shop again links a worker with a place, not a material.

Final Answer: Potter : Clay shares the worker-to-material link ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q22](#)



Q23.

Solution

Concept — Analogy: Fix the part-to-whole relationship.

Relationship: A petal is a part of a flower, so the link is a part to the whole it belongs to.

Application: A branch is a part of a tree, matching part to whole.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Herd : Cow reverses the order, giving whole to part.
- Option C: Bouquet : Rose is a collection to a single flower, again whole to part.
- Option D: Seed : Fruit pairs a source with what grows around it, not part to whole.

Final Answer: Branch : Tree shares the part-to-whole link \Rightarrow

[Go Back to Q23](#)

Q24.

Solution

Concept — Analogy: Fix the young-to-adult relationship.

Relationship: A lamb is a young sheep, so the link is young animal to adult animal.

Application: A cub is a young bear, matching young to adult.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Dog : Puppy reverses the order, giving adult to young.
- Option B: Cow : Calf also reverses it, adult to young.
- Option C: Horse : Stable pairs an animal with its shelter, not its young.

Final Answer: Cub : Bear shares the young-to-adult link \Rightarrow

[Go Back to Q24](#)



Q25.

Solution

Concept — Analogy: Fix the individual-to-group relationship.

Relationship: A singer is one member of a choir, so the link is an individual to the group they form.

Application: A musician is one member of an orchestra, matching individual to group.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Player : Game pairs a person with an activity, not a group.
- Option B: Actor : Film pairs a person with a product, not the group they belong to.
- Option D: Teacher : Lesson pairs a person with what they deliver, not a group.

Final Answer: Musician : Orchestra shares the individual-to-group link ⇒

[Go Back to Q25](#)

Q26.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the blanks: The connector “Since” gives a reason, so the two blanks must fit a cause-and-result logic.

Step 1 — Read the logic: A library with many journals would give scholars a highly useful collection.

Step 2 — Test the pair: “numerous ... invaluable” fits: many journals make the collection extremely valuable for research.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “few ... adequate” weakly suggests scarcity yet sufficiency, a poor fit for advanced work.
- Option C: “old ... modern” is self-contradictory.
- Option D: “damaged ... useful” pairs a fault with usefulness, breaking the logic.

Final Answer: “numerous ... invaluable” fits the reason ⇒

[Go Back to Q26](#)



Q27.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the blanks: “While” sets up a contrast between the two rivals in the sentence.

Step 1 — Read the contrast: One rival should feel one way and the other the opposite as the contest ends.

Step 2 — Test the pair: “confident . . . anxious” fits: one stayed sure of winning while the other became increasingly worried.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “sure . . . certain” gives two similar feelings, so there is no contrast.
- Option B: “tense . . . composed” makes a rival grow calmer as the contest closes, which is unnatural.
- Option C: “calm . . . relaxed” again pairs two similar states, missing the contrast.

Final Answer: “confident . . . anxious” fits the contrast ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q27](#)

Q28.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the blanks: “therefore” signals a consequence, so the second blank must follow from the first.

Step 1 — Read the logic: A long power cut would harm frozen food and upset the shopkeepers.

Step 2 — Test the pair: “spoil . . . anxious” fits: the food spoils, and the owners grow anxious about the loss.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “freeze . . . happy” is illogical, since a power cut cannot keep food frozen.
- Option C: “improve . . . calm” wrongly makes the outage helpful.
- Option D: “harden . . . hopeful” gives no reason for hope after a loss.

Final Answer: “spoil . . . anxious” fits the consequence ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q28](#)



Q29.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the blanks: “Whereas” contrasts the neat theory with its messy practice.

Step 1 — Read the contrast: What seems easy in theory often turns out to be hard in practice.

Step 2 — Test the pair: “simple ... complicated” fits: simple on paper but complicated in the field.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “sound ... reliable” gives two positive words, so there is no contrast.
- Option B: “flawed ... simple” oddly calls the theory faulty yet its use simple.
- Option D: “clear ... obvious” pairs two similar words, again with no contrast.

Final Answer: “simple ... complicated” fits the contrast ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q29](#)

Q30.

Solution

Concept — Fill in the blanks: “In order to” states a purpose, so the action must serve that aim.

Step 1 — Read the logic: A clean-up drive aims to clear rubbish from the river bank.

Step 2 — Test the pair: “clean ... collected” fits: to clean the bank, the volunteers gathered all the litter.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “pollute ... scattered” describes the opposite of a clean-up.
- Option C: “flood ... ignored” has no link to clearing litter.
- Option D: “decorate ... burned” misses the aim of removing waste cleanly.

Final Answer: “clean ... collected” fits the purpose ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q30](#)



Q31.

Solution

Concept — Spotting errors: “The majority of + plural noun” takes a plural verb when it refers to the members as individuals.

Step 1 — Locate the fault: Part A “The majority of the members was” uses the singular “was” for plural members.

Step 2 — Correct form: “The majority of the members were in favour of the proposal put forward by the chairman.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “in favour of the proposal” is correct.
- Option C: “put forward by the chairman” is correct.
- Option D: A clear agreement error exists, so “No error” is wrong.

Final Answer: The error lies in part (A) ⇒

[Go Back to Q31](#)

Q32.

Solution

Concept — Spotting errors: Test each part for agreement, tense, and usage; “people” is a plural noun taking a plural verb.

Step 1 — Check each part: “Many people were” correctly uses the plural verb; “waiting outside the hall” and “long before the doors opened” are also correct.

Step 2 — Conclusion: No part contains an error.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Many people were” matches the plural subject correctly.
- Option B: “waiting outside the hall” is grammatically sound.
- Option C: “long before the doors opened” uses the right past tense.

Final Answer: The sentence has no error ⇒

[Go Back to Q32](#)



Q33.

Solution

Concept — Spotting errors: “Hair”, when it means the mass of hair on the head, is uncountable and takes a singular verb.

Step 1 — Locate the fault: Part C “hairs are growing very fast” wrongly treats hair as a countable plural.

Step 2 — Correct form: “The barber remarked that my hair is growing very fast.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “The barber remarked” is correct.
- Option B: “that my” correctly introduces the clause.
- Option D: A countability error exists, so “No error” is wrong.

Final Answer: The error lies in part (C) ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q33](#)

Q34.

Solution

Concept — Spotting errors: “Scenery” is an uncountable noun and has no plural form “sceneries”.

Step 1 — Locate the fault: Part B “by the beautiful sceneries” wrongly makes “scenery” plural.

Step 2 — Correct form: “We were thrilled by the beautiful scenery of the hill station.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “We were thrilled” is correct.
- Option C: “of the hill station” is correct.
- Option D: A countability error exists, so “No error” is wrong.

Final Answer: The error lies in part (B) ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q34](#)



Q35.

Solution

Concept — Spotting errors: “Stop + gerund” means to cease an activity, while “stop + to-infinitive” means to pause in order to do something.

Step 1 — Locate the fault: The context (giving up the habit after a doctor’s warning) needs “stopped smoking”. Part A “He stopped to smoke” wrongly means he paused in order to smoke.

Step 2 — Correct form: “He stopped smoking three years ago after a serious warning from his doctor.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “three years ago” is correct.
- Option C: “after a serious warning from his doctor” is correct.
- Option D: A clear usage error exists, so “No error” is wrong.

Final Answer: The error lies in part (A) ⇒

[Go Back to Q35](#)

Q36.

Solution

Concept — Sentence improvement: The transitive verb “lay” (to put down or produce) has the past form “laid”.

Step 1 — Test the sentence: “The hen laid six eggs last week” correctly uses “laid” as the past of “lay”.

Step 2 — Conclusion: No change is required.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “lay” is the present form and cannot show past time here.
- Option B: “lain” is the past participle of the intransitive “lie”, not of “lay”.
- Option C: “lied” is the past of “lie” meaning to tell an untruth.

Final Answer: The sentence needs no improvement ⇒

[Go Back to Q36](#)



Q37.

Solution

Concept — Sentence improvement: When speaking of an execution, the correct past form is “hanged”; “hung” is used for objects.

Step 1 — Spot the fault: “The convicted murderer was hung” wrongly uses “hung” for a person put to death.

Step 2 — Correct form: “The convicted murderer was hanged at dawn.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “hunged” is not a real word.
- Option C: “had hung” keeps the wrong verb and changes the tense needlessly.
- Option D: The original is faulty, so “No improvement” is wrong.

Final Answer: “hanged” is correct ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q37](#)

Q38.

Solution

Concept — Sentence improvement: To show skill in a subject, English uses “good at”, not “good in”.

Step 1 — Spot the fault: “very good in mathematics” uses the wrong preposition.

Step 2 — Correct form: “She has always been very good at mathematics.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “good on” is not the accepted collocation for a skill.
- Option B: “good with” suits handling people or tools, not a subject of study.
- Option D: The original is faulty, so “No improvement” is wrong.

Final Answer: “good at” is correct ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q38](#)



Q39.

Solution

Concept — Sentence improvement: A person is “married to” someone, never “married with”.

Step 1 — Spot the fault: “got married with a doctor” uses the wrong preposition.

Step 2 — Correct form: “After a long courtship, she got married to a doctor.”

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “married from” is not a valid collocation.
- Option C: “married by” would name the person conducting the ceremony, not the spouse.
- Option D: The original is faulty, so “No improvement” is wrong.

Final Answer: “married to” is correct ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q39](#)

Q40.

Solution

Concept — Sentence improvement: The correct collocation is “ashamed of” something.

Step 1 — Test the sentence: “He felt deeply ashamed of his rude behaviour” already uses the right preposition “of”.

Step 2 — Conclusion: No change is required.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “ashamed for” is the wrong preposition.
- Option B: “ashamed with” is not an accepted form.
- Option C: “ashamed from” is also incorrect.

Final Answer: The sentence needs no improvement ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q40](#)



Q41.

Solution

Concept — Para-jumble: Begin with the sentence that defines the topic, then follow the natural order of history and development.

Step 1 — Opener: Q defines the violin, so it begins the paragraph.

Step 2 — Sequence: R gives its origin in Italy, S adds how makers perfected it, and P closes with its rise to lead the orchestra. Order: Q-R-S-P.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Q-R-P-S places its leading role before the makers who perfected it.
- Option C: R-Q-S-P starts with the origin before the instrument is defined.
- Option D: Q-S-R-P puts the perfecting of design before the origin it followed.

Final Answer: The correct order is Q-R-S-P ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q41](#)

Q42.

Solution

Concept — Para-jumble: The topic sentence opens, then the paragraph moves from a general fact to its detail and result.

Step 1 — Opener: Q introduces ants as highly social insects.

Step 2 — Sequence: R says they live in colonies, P describes how each colony is divided, and S gives the result that this makes it efficient. Order: Q-R-P-S.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Q-R-S-P gives the “result” before the division that causes it.
- Option B: R-Q-P-S begins mid-idea before ants are introduced.
- Option D: Q-P-R-S describes the division before saying they live in colonies.

Final Answer: The correct order is Q-R-P-S ⇒ **C**

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q42](#)



Q43.

Solution

Concept — Para-jumble: Follow the time line from the internet’s beginning to its present-day reach.

Step 1 — Opener: Q says the internet began as a small network.

Step 2 — Sequence: P explains it was first a military project, R adds that universities later joined, and S ends with its worldwide scale today. Order: Q-P-R-S.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: Q-R-P-S puts the universities before the earlier military origin.
- Option C: P-Q-R-S opens with “It” before naming the internet.
- Option D: Q-P-S-R ends with the universities after the present-day summary.

Final Answer: The correct order is Q-P-R-S ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q43](#)

Q44.

Solution

Concept — Para-jumble: Move from the definition to the river’s journey from source to sea.

Step 1 — Opener: Q defines rivers as large natural streams of water.

Step 2 — Sequence: P says they begin as tiny mountain streams, R adds that smaller streams join as they flow down, and S ends as they empty into a sea or lake. Order: Q-P-R-S.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Q-R-P-S has streams joining before the river has even begun.
- Option B: P-Q-R-S opens with “They” before rivers are defined.
- Option C: Q-P-S-R ends at the mountains after reaching the sea, reversing the flow.

Final Answer: The correct order is Q-P-R-S ⇒ **D**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q44](#)



Q45.

Solution

Concept — Para-jumble: A topic sentence opens; “As a result” and “for example” mark the later links.

Step 1 — Opener: Q praises vaccination as one of medicine’s greatest achievements.

Step 2 — Sequence: P explains how a vaccine works, S gives the result that diseases have almost disappeared, and R offers smallpox as the example. Order: Q-P-S-R.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: Q-P-R-S gives the smallpox example before the general result it illustrates.
- Option C: P-Q-S-R opens with the mechanism before the topic is set.
- Option D: Q-S-P-R states the result before explaining how a vaccine works.

Final Answer: The correct order is Q-P-S-R ⇒ **B**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q45](#)

Q46.

Solution

Concept — One-word substitution: Replace the phrase with the single precise term.

Meaning: “Claustrophobia” is an intense fear of enclosed or confined spaces.

Usage: His claustrophobia made him avoid crowded lifts and narrow tunnels.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option B: “Agoraphobia” is a fear of open or public spaces, the reverse idea.
- Option C: “Acrophobia” is a fear of heights.
- Option D: “Hydrophobia” is a fear of water.

Final Answer: The word is “claustrophobia” ⇒ **A**

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q46](#)



Q47.

Solution

Concept — One-word substitution: Choose the exact term for the described art.

Meaning: “Calligraphy” is the art of beautiful or decorative handwriting.

Usage: The wedding cards were addressed in elegant calligraphy.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Cartography” is the art of drawing maps.
- Option B: “Choreography” is the art of arranging dance.
- Option D: “Typography” is the design and arrangement of printed type, not handwriting.

Final Answer: The word is “calligraphy” ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q47](#)

Q48.

Solution

Concept — One-word substitution: Find the single word for the given description.

Meaning: A “vegetarian” is a person who does not eat meat.

Usage: As a vegetarian, she chose the lentil curry over the chicken.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: A “herbivore” is a plant-eating animal, not a person’s chosen diet.
- Option B: A “gourmet” is a lover of fine food of any kind.
- Option C: A “teetotaler” is a person who does not drink alcohol, a different abstention.

Final Answer: The word is “vegetarian” ⇒

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q48](#)



Q49.

Solution

Concept — One-word substitution: Match the description of the role to its precise term.

Meaning: An “arbitrator” is a person appointed to settle a dispute between two parties.

Usage: Both companies agreed to accept the arbitrator’s final decision.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: An “advocate” argues for one side, not as a neutral judge.
- Option C: A “witness” gives evidence but does not decide the matter.
- Option D: A “culprit” is the person at fault, not one who settles the dispute.

Final Answer: The word is “arbitrator” ⇒

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q49](#)

Q50.

Solution

Concept — One-word substitution: Select the exact term for the described act of killing.

Meaning: “Fratricide” is the act of killing one’s own brother.

Usage: The old legend told of a bitter fratricide over the throne.

Why other options are wrong:

- Option A: “Homicide” is the general killing of any human being.
- Option B: “Regicide” is the killing of a king.
- Option D: “Patricide” is the killing of one’s own father.

Final Answer: The word is “fratricide” ⇒

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q50](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	C	2	A	3	B	4	D	5	C
6	B	7	D	8	A	9	C	10	B
11	D	12	A	13	C	14	B	15	D
16	A	17	C	18	B	19	D	20	A
21	C	22	B	23	A	24	D	25	C
26	B	27	D	28	A	29	C	30	B
31	A	32	D	33	C	34	B	35	A
36	D	37	B	38	C	39	A	40	D
41	B	42	C	43	A	44	D	45	B
46	A	47	C	48	D	49	B	50	C

